

## **THE VA MISSION ACT OF 2018**

### **Community Care Improvement**

- Consolidates 7 duplicative programs into 1 cohesive program
- Removes the current 30-day, 40-mile barriers in the Choice Program to expand veteran choice and access to timely, quality care
- Returns all VA healthcare funding to the discretionary budget
  - Note: the Choice Program is currently a mandatory account

### **Choice Funding Shortfall**

- Prevents expiration of the Choice Program and a potential renewed access crisis in early June, when VA predicts the Choice account will be depleted
  - Note: The Choice Program is authorized to continue until all funding is utilized; the Program will sunset when the account runs out of funding
- Allows for a one-year funding bridge to the implementation of a consolidated, improved community care program, ensuring veterans have continuity of care while the new program is implemented

### **Asset and Infrastructure Review (AIR)**

- Creates a fair and transparent process for a comprehensive audit of VA's assets that is insulated from politics.
- Transforms VA from a reliance on outdated and inefficient facilities to a more modern infrastructure based on current and future medical models
- Recommended by bipartisan Commission on Care and only foreseeable path to long-term VA systemic reform and efficient utilization of resources

### **Caregiver Expansion**

- Creates equity between seriously injured pre-9/11 and post-9/11 veterans by allowing pre-9/11 caregivers to receive a monthly stipend and other support (including CHAMPVA coverage if needed)
- Top priority for veterans service organizations

### **Capacity Enhancement**

- Contains numerous provisions that would expand VA's internal capacity to care for veterans in VA medical facilities by improving recruitment and retention programs